INITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov SEP 0 4 2007 CONFIRMATION NO. FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE 1139 10/048,041 01/24/2002 **Ernest Johann Fantner** AT000035 7590 07/06/2007 EXAMINER Corporate Patent Counsel CARLSON, JEFFREY D Philips Electronics North America Corporation 580 White Plains Road PAPER NUMBER **ART UNIT** Tarrytown, NY 10591-5198 3622

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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PAPER

MAIL DATE 07/06/2007

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Art Unit: 3622

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

- 1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
 - The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
 - The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.
 - Claims 6 and 15, the "and/or" renders the claim scope unclear.
 - Claim 8, it is unclear whether applicant is positively requiring a step of sharing.
 - Claim 20, there is no antecedent basis for the billboard.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3622

4. Claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lutterbach et al (US5510828).

Regarding claims 1, 7, 10, 16, Lutterbach et al teaches an interactive billboard whereby advertising is presented on the billboard and user responses to the advertising can be collected by input devices [fig 5, col 4 lines 46-50 and 65-67]. This is taken to provide assignment of electronic input means to ad surface and receiving of visitor information thereby as triggered by the visitors. Lutterbach et al teaches that the responses received can be stored by the marketing system 56 to provide feedback regarding the programming or advertising presented [col 4 lines 60-63] and further a determination of advertising effectiveness can be determined. This generation of advertising effectiveness is also taken to inherently include output of the generated effectiveness in order to communicate the effectiveness to the advertising entities so that the effectiveness can be made known.

Regarding claims 4, 13, the result is taken to be representative of the number of visitors in a certain time periods – they more crowded the advertising area, the more responses received.

Regarding claim 19, the billboards of Lutterbach et al are capable of being affixed with exchangably affixed advertising posters. Lutterbach et al also teaches the known use of such posters [col 1 lines 14-22].

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 6. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lutterbach et al.

Regarding claims 2, 3, 11, 12, Official Notice is taken that it is well known to survey consumers with speech sensors (microphones) as well as touch screen input. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have provided the consumer inputs as such types for their ease of interaction.

Regarding claims 5, 6, 14, 15, Official Notice is taken that consumer surveys typically include collection of demographic information such as country of origin, gender and age of the consumers. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have collected such information so that the advertising effectiveness could be measured across various/typical consumer segments.

Regarding claims 8, 17, Lutterbach et al envisions placement of such billboards around town and it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have centrally collected the advertising effectiveness data from each of Lutterbach et al's billboards to get an overall effectiveness measure of advertising.

Art Unit: 3622

Regarding claims 9, 18, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have displayed modified advertising where previous advertising for a product was deemed to be ineffective. This would enable the advertiser to improve and learn from his mistakes in advertising.

Regarding claim 20, Lutterbach et al shows that the billboards can be arranged in a cylindrical-like manner [fig 3] and it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have provided billboards in any particular shape/arrangement including exactly cylindrical. Lutterbach et al teaches that the user devices can be hardwired to the billboards [col 4 lines 48-49]. Further, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have provided user input devices integral with any of the smaller billboards.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey D. Carlson whose telephone number is 571-272-6716. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8a-5:30p, (work from home on Thursdays).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571)272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Jeffrey D. Carlson Primary Examiner Art Unit 3622

jdc

Applicant(s)/Patent Under Application/Control No. Reexamination 10/048,041 FANTNER, ERNEST JOHANN **Notice of References Cited** Examiner Art Unit Page 1 of 1 3622 Jeffrey D. Carlson **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Date **Document Number** Classification Name MM-YYYY Country Code-Number-Kind Code 725/138 04-1996 Lutterbach et al. Α US-5,510,828 US-В US-С US-D SEP 0 4 2007 US-Ε US-F US-G US-Ĥ US-US-US-Κ US-US-**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number** Date Name Classification Country Country Code-Number-Kind Code MM-YYYY Ν 0 ρ Q R S T **NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS** Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages) w

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